Expedited Examining Procedure

Group 1762

PATENT Docket No. 54407US006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1762 Applicant(s): Scott J. TUMAN et al. Group Art Unit: Serial No.: Elena Tsoy 09/822,651 Examiner: Confirmation No.: 9447 Filed: 30 March 2001 WEB HAVING DISCRETE STEM REGIONS For:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop RCE P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed 27 March 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please add new claims 56-70. The new claims are provided below in clean form. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, amended claims are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate changes made (for convenience, all pending claims, including those added hereby, are provided in Appendix A).

56. (NEW) A mechanical fastener comprising:

a nonwoven web with at least one discrete polymeric region fused to a first major side of the nonwoven web such that polymer of the at least one discrete polymeric region is entangled